

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10-13 are all the claims pending in the application and claims 11-13 are withdrawn.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the “Technical Paper” entitled “Technique Paper for Wet-Spinning Poly(L-lactic acid) and Poly(DL-lactic-co-glycolide) Monofilament Fibers.”

According to the Non-Patent Literature Document of April 26, 2010 (Requesting the official publication date of the Technical Paper from Ms. Karen Ballen/Jason Scahppert), the earliest and official publication date of the Technical Paper was November 2003.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Technical Paper is not available as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), because the Technical Paper was published in November of 2003 which is later in time than the February 13, 2003 priority date of JP 2003-034779 and later in time than the March 31, 2003 priority date of JP 2003-094176. Applicants submit verified English translations for both priority documents. Thus, the Technical Paper is not available as prior art.

The present claims find support under 35 U.S.C. § 112 from the priority documents. For example, see below.

Present Claims	Support from JP 2003-094176
Claim 1	Claims 1 and 3 on page 3 and page 11, lines 4-8
Claim 2	Claim 2 on page 3

Claim 3	Claim 4 on page 3
Claim 4	Claim 5
Claim 5	Canceled
Claim 6	Claims 6 and 8 on pages 3 and 4 and page 11, lines 4-8
Claim 7	Claim 7 on page 4
Claim 8	Claim 9 on page 4
Claim 9	Canceled
Claim 10	Claim 10 on page 4
Claim 11	Claim 11 on pages 4 and 5
Claim 12	Claim 12 on page 5
Claim 13	Claim 13 on page 5

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the presently claimed invention is non-obvious. Withdrawal of the § 103 obviousness rejection is respectfully requested.

Further, as claim 1-10 are believed to be allowable, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of claim 11-13 as method claims drawn toward an allowable product.

See MPEP § 821.04(b).

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

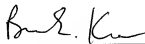
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Application No.: 10/544,112

Attorney Docket No.: Q88453

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce E. Kramer
Registration No. 33,725

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 26, 2010